

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 ACDA-19 SAJ-01 OMB-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /161 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3579

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, XF

SUBJ: SOVIET TREATMENT OF ME

REF: STATE 214078

1. SUMMARY: FOR FIRST TIME SINCE OUTBREAK OF CRISIS, ME NEWS YIELDED LEAD COVERAGE ON INTERNATIONAL PAGES IN PRAVDA TO OTHER ITEMS. REPORT ON SADAT PRESS CONFERENCE MAKES NO REFERENCE TO HIS REJECTION OF DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS. END OF U.S. ALERT IS REPORTED, BUT U.S. IS CRITICIZED FOR FLEET MOVEMENTS IN INDIAN OCEAN. SOVIET-ETHIOPIAN COMMUNIQUE REPEATS CALLS FOR TOTAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AS CONDITION OF ME SETTLEMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. TASS COVERAGE OF SADAT PRESS CONFERENCE (PRAVDA) REPORTS EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT THAT HE ACCEPTED SC RES. 338 BECAUSE IT CALLED FOR CEASE-FIRE ON LINES OF OCTOBER 22 AND IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION OF SC RES.

242. ITEM OMITS ANY MENTION OF SADAT'S REJECTION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS. SADAT QUOTED AS SAYING THAT

USSR IS MEETING ITS OBLIGATIONS; THAT U.S., DESPITE ITS SUPPORT OF ISRAEL, HAS TAKEN CONSTRUCTIVE POSITION ON ME PEACE; AND THAT EGYPT AWAITING SECRETARY'S VISIT TO DISCUSS ME PROBLEMS. ITEM CONCLUDES WITH SADAT'S PLEDGE TO MEET ALL REQUIRMENTS OF SC RES. 242 AND HIS WARNING THAT EGYPT WILL TAKE MEASURES IF THIRD ARMY IS THREATENED.

3. ON U.S. PRAVDA CARRIES TASS ITEM REPORTING DEFENSE DEPARTMENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT U.S. HAS ENDED ALERT, BUT NOTES SIXTH FLEET REMAINS IN STAE OF READINESS. ITEM ADDS GRATUITOUSLY THAT ALERT LACKED ALL BASIS AND PROVOKED WORLDWIDE INDIGNATION. PRAVDA ALSO CARRIES TASS REPORT OF TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT STATEMENT AND INDIAN AND MALAGASY PRESS COMMENT CRITICIZING PRESENCE OF U.S. CARRIER TASK GROUP IN INDIAN OCEAN (REFTEL. NO MENTION OF MEIR VISIT TO U.S.

4. ME SECTION IN SOVIET-ETHIOPIAN COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWING HAILE SELASSIE VISIT STATES THAT BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT ME CEASE-FIRE, PLEDGED ASSISTANCE IN REACHING ME SETTLEMENT, AND AFFIRMED AGAIN (REPEATING LANGUAGE OF MAY 1970 COMMUNIQUE BE CONDITIONED ON ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL OCCUPIED LANDS AND GUARANTEE OF PALESTINIAN RIGHTS.

5. PRAVDA COMMENTARY (V. OZEROV), NOTING THAT 24 AFRICAN STATES HAVE NOW BROKEN RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL, REHASHES THEME OF ISRAELI ISOLATION AND CONCLUDES THAT ANTI-ISRAELI MOOD IS GROWING STRONGER IN EUROPE.
DUBS

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